

REMARKS

Claims 11-14 and 24-27 are pending in the above-identified application. Claims 11-14, 24-27 were rejected. With this Amendment, claims 11, 13, 24 and 26 were amended, and claims 28-30 were added. Accordingly, claims 11-14 and 24-30 are at issue in the above-identified application.

Claims Rejections - 35 USC § 102

Claims 11-14, 24-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), as being anticipated by *Allen et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,469,199). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claims 11-14 and 24-27 have been amended to require that adjacent nozzles in each nozzle array be shifted sequentially in a direction a print object is fed into a printer with respect to a printer head. *Allen et al.* discloses a nozzle 18 having orifices 16 in which adjacent orifices 16 are not sequentially shifted in a direction a print object is fed into a printer with respect to a printer head. (See *Allen et al.*, FIGS. 1a and 3.) Accordingly, Applicants submit that the claim invention is neither anticipated by nor obvious over the applied references, either alone or in combination. Withdrawal of these grounds of rejection is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the remarks set forth above, Applicants respectfully submits that the present invention is in condition for allowance. Early notification to such effect is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner have any remaining issue, Applicants kindly requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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